



THE ADA HOUSE OF DELEGATES (HOD): DELEGATES WORKING FOR MEMBERS

What's It All About?

HOD Vision Statement: “The House of Delegates, as the voice of members, governs the profession and develops policy on major professional issues.”

To govern the profession of dietetics, the HOD:

- Monitors and evaluates trends affecting the profession,
- Monitors member issues and mega issues, and the resulting actions,
- Approves standards of education and standards of practice,
- Reviews, debates, and approves professional standards,
- Establishes the size and structure of the House,
- Adopts and revises with the Commission on Dietetic Registration a code of ethics for dietetics practitioners, disciplinary procedures for unethical conduct, and reinstatement conditions,
- Makes recommendations on standards, qualifications, and other issues related to credentialing to the Commission on Dietetic Registration,
- Makes recommendations on accreditation, approval and related issues to the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education,
- Provides direction for quality management in dietetics practice,
- Identifies and develops position statements,
- Provides oversight to ADA and affiliate bylaws and,
- Assists with recruitment and retention efforts related to leadership development.

The HOD includes (total number of delegates = 100 as of October 1, 2004):

- 1 *66 Affiliate Delegates* represent the 53 affiliate dietetic associations and are elected by the affiliate members,
- 2 *18 Professional Issues Delegates* represent the 29 dietetic practice groups (DPGs) and are elected by the general ADA membership,
- 3 *10 At-Large Delegates:*
 - ✓ One delegate represent *CADE* (appointed by CADE)
 - ✓ One delegate represent *CDR* (appointed by CDR)
 - ✓ One delegate represent *student members* (appointed by CADE)
 - ✓ Two delegates represent *DTRs* (elected nationally)
 - ✓ One delegate represent *retired members* (elected by HOD)
 - ✓ One delegate represent *members under 30 years of age* (elected by HOD)
 - ✓ Three delegates present the *broad membership* (elected by the HOD).
- 4 *6 HOD Directors* comprise the House Leadership Team (HLT), including the Speaker and Speaker-elect, elected by the membership. They are members of the ADA BOD.

Responsibilities of a Delegate:

- 5 Interact with members to identify issues important to the membership
- 6 Identify professional issues affecting dietetics practice
- 7 Participate in the discussions of the House of Delegates to provide direction on member and

- professional issues
- 8 Communicate member and professional issues to the HOD Leadership Team
 - 9 Contribute to trend identification and strategic planning
 - 10 Inform members about the Association and HOD initiatives and programs.

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ADA Members Can Expect Delegates to:

- 11 Provide regular updates on HOD and ADA activities
- 12 Request input on issues being discussed by HOD
- 13 Request identification of trends and issues affecting the profession
- 14 Assist accessing information from ADA
- 15 Assist submitting issues or concerns about the profession or Association.

ADA Members Can Support the Delegate by:

- 16 Reviewing electronic and/or written information about ADA and HOD regularly
- 17 Providing input to issues being discussed by HOD
- 18 Identifying trends and issues affecting the profession
- 19 Sharing knowledge of HOD and ADA activities with members.

Communication To and From Your Delegate—the Delegate:

- 20 Wants to hear from members
- 21 Has information to share with members
- 22 Wants your ideas, concerns and issues
- 23 Needs to know the best method for communication with members.

To find **more information** on ADA and the work of the HOD, visit the web site at www.eatright.com/members/leadership/hod.html.